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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DINGELL).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 28, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DEBBIE DINGELL to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

AMERICA MUST DEMAND BETTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, nearly 100 days after being appointed as the Biden administration border czar, Vice President HARRIS finally visited the southern border at the end of last week. It was 800 miles away from the crux of the problem, but I suppose it is a start.

Clearly, the Biden-Harris administration knows that it is facing a border

crisis. To them, it is a PR crisis. To the American people, the Biden border crisis is so real.

As I have said time and time again, the illicit fentanyl that is made in China or elsewhere crosses the porous southern border and winds up on our streets in Pennsylvania. It spurs addiction; it tears apart families; it destroys the workforce; and worst of all, it is killing friends and neighbors.

Last month alone, U.S. Customs and Border Protection intercepted more than 900 pounds of fentanyl. In fact, border agents have seized more fentanyl at the border so far this year than in all of last year.

As my friend and Franklin County Coroner Jeff Conner just recently told me, fentanyl is easy to get and fast to kill. This is true in Pennsylvania, and this is true across our country.

Can you imagine what 900 pounds of fentanyl means for American communities, what it means to American families?

The chaos on the southern border is absolutely a crisis for first responders, law enforcement, healthcare providers, and community leaders on the front lines of the drug epidemic in our communities. Every day, I hear from Pennsylvanians who have experienced the ramifications of this crisis firsthand. For them, this is a stark reality.

Vice President HARRIS says that the Biden administration is making progress on this crisis. If that is the case, what is the President's definition of progress?

Does the President believe that his administration is making progress on the Biden economic crisis, as inflation spirals out of control and hardworking families bear that cost?

Does the President believe that his administration is making progress on the Biden crime crisis, as violent crimes skyrocket in cities across the country and our brave law enforcement officers face unprecedented opposition?

If this is President Biden's idea of progress, we must demand better.

Once again, I stand ready to work with the President and my colleagues on commonsense reforms to restore law and order and end the administration's border crisis. We must demand real progress.

Lives are depending on our work. All of America is depending on our work.

SALUTING DAVID WALLACE DOUGLAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute David Wallace Douglas, an author, environmental champion, social entrepreneur, and philanthropist.

He continues his family tradition of service. His grandfather was Vice President of the United States for Franklin Roosevelt. He was perhaps the most impactful Secretary of Agriculture in American history. He was an inventor and a businessperson, and the extended clan continues that tradition today.

I became acquainted with this extraordinary individual because we shared a passion for safe drinking water and sanitation. I worked with him on our Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act and the subsequent Paul Simon Water for the World Act. David was an invaluable ally and a mentor for me.

It should be noted that David is a Renaissance man. He is the author of three books and has written widely in publications featuring environmental, religious, and developmental issues. He is the conscience of the United States for preserving our natural heritage. He was a tireless champion of respect for science and public servants like in the EPA, the Park Service, and international development when they were

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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under assault in the last administration.

He has created nonprofit NGO advocacy infrastructure to support his various missions. From 1986 to 2020 he founded and led Waterlines, which provided technical help and funding for over 1,000 water projects in rural communities in 15 developing countries around the world.

In 2005 David founded the D.C.-based Water Advocates, the first advocacy organization devoted to increasing American support for affordable and sustainable drinking water and sanitation.

He has two other time-limited advocacy organizations to further elevate national and global attention to WASH.

Most recently, David is fighting to focus attention on safe water and sanitation for hospitals, which impacts some 2 billion of the planet's poorest citizens. Try to imagine treating patients in a clinic where there is no safe clean water to wash your hands. You can't.

David has a gift for creating organizations for a specific time, to concentrate efforts and get the job done and move on. Some become captive of organizations. Not David. He is currently wrapping up efforts with the promise of spending more time in the great outdoors and with his family.

However David spends his time, wherever he goes, whatever he does next, we are deeply indebted to him for his leadership and vision. The world is better for his service and for his example.

STOP ATTACKS ON RURAL AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. FEENSTRA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FEENSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge President Biden and his administration to back off on the attacks on rural America and rural Iowa.

The administration has proposed changes to the stepped-up basis tax policy, which is, effectively, the death tax with a new coat of paint.

I have heard from farmers all across the Fourth District who are concerned about these changes, and they would be financially devastating, especially when it comes to passing on that family farm to the next generation.

This was confirmed in a recent study by Texas A&M and the Agriculture and Food Policy Center. It noted that the stepped-up basis changes would impact 98 percent of family farms and impose an additional \$1 million tax on farms in the Midwest.

It is simple. The hardworking men and women of the Fourth District and those who feed the world should not have to foot the bill for the Democrats' reckless spending agenda.

The Biden administration isn't just looking at penalizing rural Americans with higher taxes. They are also look-

ing at implementing burdensome regulations that will crush rural Main Streets and our agricultural community in the Midwest.

Administrator Regan of the EPA recently announced that the EPA would look into undoing the 2020 Navigable Waters Protection Rule, which replaced waters of the U.S. as a smarter, more efficient, and more straightforward approach to defining what waters warrant Federal regulation.

A return to WOTUS, which allowed the Federal Government to regulate water on 97 percent of the land in Iowa, would force unnecessary and costly government regulations on the backs of Iowa farmers. There are many places the Federal Government bureaucrats just don't belong, and specifically, they don't belong on our family farms.

When the executive branch's power exploded under the Obama administration, we saw ridiculous rules implemented and enforced, leading to rising costs in the ag industry and snuffing out economic growth on our rural Main Streets and in our rural communities.

This attempted power grab ultimately proved why water regulation is best left to States and localities.

Put simply, the Biden administration's Big Government agenda for rural America includes higher taxes and more regulation, but this administration isn't stopping at this one-two gut punch. President Biden is also looking to undermine the RFS and lowering biofuel blending requirements. This will hurt both crop growers and biofuel producers, two industries that are so critical to our economic activity in rural Iowa.

At the same time, the administration is laughing as they propose spending \$174 billion on electric vehicles and charging stations. A study by Biden's own Department of Energy found that four out of every five vehicles will still require liquid fuels by 2050. Think about that. Four out of every five cars in 2050 will still need liquid fuels.

Why is President Biden taking aim at this critical industry? It seems the Democrats are shrugging their shoulders, comfortable with turning their backs on the rural Midwest, farmers, our rural Main Streets. I say enough is enough.

Rural Iowans are already suffering from high gas taxes and grocery prices due to this incredible inflation, which is a direct result of Democrats' massive and reckless spending. Gas prices are over 50 percent higher than they were a year ago. Our food and energy prices continue to rise because of inflation.

In May 2021, the Consumer Price Index increased at a rate that has not been seen since the 2008 recession. On top of the Biden inflation tax, our farmers can't afford additional taxes, more regulations, and other policies that will hinder the most important industries and will stifle growth in the rural Midwest, creating a disaster for rural Main Streets, our producers, and our family farmers.

Iowa is the breadbasket to the world. That is why President Biden must back off rural America. Please back off agriculture.

CONGRESS MUST WORK TOGETHER FOR PROGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, as we reach the middle of 2021, this House has made incredible progress, including fighting the global pandemic by passing the American Rescue Plan.

Already, more than 300 million vaccine shots have been administered. Communities are opening up, and business is picking up, creating jobs and opportunity.

Next month, parents will begin receiving their monthly child tax credit, legislation that will cut the Nation's child poverty rate in half.

We have a pathway to recovery and transformation that offers real promise to every American. But underneath all of this, our country faces a deep divide that threatens to undo the foundations upon which our country rests.

These divisions reached an apex on January 6, when our Capitol came under attack and five people died.

□ 1215

The immediate threat to the Capitol may have receded, but the threat across the country still simmers.

It is therefore imperative that we fully understand the events leading up to and including the siege on the Capitol on January 6.

As someone who was here in the gallery during the attack, someone who watched in horror as they rushed the Speaker off the floor, who took cover as the Capitol Police barricaded the door against the mob, who fully understands the cost to our Nation and the implications of simply moving on, I am personally, deeply invested in preventing such an attack on our Capitol from ever happening again.

The divide in our Nation threatens the prospects of our recovery and the potential for America to lead on the global stage.

Congress must now work in unison, Democrats and Republicans, to institute the policies we need to prevent future acts of domestic extremism. For years, I have worked to pass legislation like the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act that would invest in the types of programs built to spot and intervene in this type of extremism.

When my friend Republican Congressman JOHN KATKO negotiated a bipartisan committee to investigate January 6, he did it because he knew the stakes we faced as a Nation.

The work of the Select Committee will be essential to history's understanding of what took place on January 6 and protecting the future of our Republic.

My hope is that the members of this committee will be committed to the